

The Herald News

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Letter: Treasurer Deborah Goldberg's bond sale supports South Coast Rail

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In announcing the sale results of Commonwealth Transportation Fund Revenue Bonds last week, the treasurer indicated that proceeds are expected to be used to fund six rail projects around Massachusetts, including the South Coast Rail extension.

Goldberg's support is yet another sign of forward movement in the advancement of the rail connection to Boston.

Money is being spent today on three significant construction projects along the future South Coast Rail corridor.

The Grade Crossing Construction project begun in 2014 will upgrade five crossings in the communities of Freetown, Taunton and New Bedford. The Four Bridge Replacements project will remove and replace one railroad bridge in New Bedford and three railroad bridges in Fall River. The Freight Improvement Program will expand freight capacity in the short term and benefit future passenger service in the longer term.

The South Coast Rail project will transform the region with a bounty of new economic development and job opportunities for Southeastern Massachusetts and other areas of the state as well.

With each milestone that is attained, the Rail to Boston Coalition is inspired to double down on our efforts to bring these benefits closer to reality. The work goes on and we cordially invite business and community organizations in Massachusetts to climb onboard and join us.

Paul Chasse

Rail to Boston Coalition

New Bedford <http://www.heraldnews.com/article/20151117/OPINION/151116093>